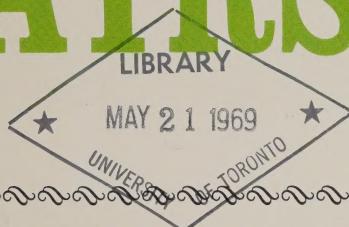




THE
CANADIAN
AYRSHIRE





At the time this photograph was taken these 10 cows, all bred and owned in a herd of less than 40 Ayrshire cows, had produced 1,003,425 pounds (455,145.5 kg) of milk testing at 4.19 per cent on twice daily milking. Their completed lactations averaged 11,550 pounds (5,238.9 kg) milk, 487 pounds (220.9 kg) fat for an average 336 days milking.



Hammonds Top Primrose, a Canadian-bred cow rated Excellent, is now in the United States. Production records show—at date of calving 2 years and 297 days and in a 305-day lactation period—a yield of 17,385 pounds (7,885.7 kg) milk and 717 pounds (325.2 kg) of fat testing at 4.12 per cent. At date of calving 10 years and 11 months and in a 305-day lactation period, she gave 25,130 pounds (11,398.8 kg) milk and 1,067 pounds (483.9 kg) fat testing at 4.2 per cent.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

Ayrshires were introduced to Canada by Lord Dalhousie, Governor General of Canada, in 1821. Numerous importations were made from their native Scotland late in the 1800s and early 1900s. Some of these, along with Canadian-bred cattle, were sold to the United States to establish prominent herds there. During the past 20 years there have been few importations, always fewer than .5 per cent of the registrations. A number of these have been from the U.S. and, in most cases, are examples of normal trade between neighbours—breeders within a few miles of the Canadian-U.S. border. An Ayrshire association has existed since 1870 with prime objects of making accurate registrations, establishing breed standards and improving the productive efficiency of the breed.

Most other breeds have developed under good conditions of level soil, productive land and small holdings. The Ayrshire is unique in the dairy world as it developed in far from ideal farming country. Yet handicaps were turned to advantage. Good feet and legs and a firmly attached udder were essential to cows who did not find their living easily and were often far from farm buildings. The emphasis on good feet, legs and udder, as well as the efforts of energetic workers in the development of the breed, have assured present day Ayrshires of these same qualities.

The Ayrshire is known for its hardy constitution and ability to thrive under adverse conditions yet, given ideal conditions, it responds with high yields. In Canada, the Ayrshire was first introduced in the Montreal area and the St. Lawrence Valley and this is where the breed is most numerous today. About 45 per cent of the annual registrations are in the Province of Quebec with about 40 per cent in Ontario. Non-registered Ayrshires are most numerous in Quebec, particularly in the lower St. Lawrence, and in northern New Brunswick where they are the dominant breed.

Through the years, Canadian Ayrshire breeders have developed a strain which is somewhat more upstanding and more angular than the original from Scotland. They have continued to emphasize quality udders along with style and balance, keeping the breed in continued strong demand on the U.S. market.

The Canadian Ayrshire national herd is being greatly influenced by the bull Selwood Betty's Commander, formerly in the herd of Stansell Brothers and still in artificial insemination service. He has the undisputed title of The Milkiest Bull in the World with more than 1,000 artificial insemination daughters whose average production has been 1,941 pounds (881.2 kg) milk and 86 pounds (39.0 kg) fat more than herdmates. No other bull in the history of dairy records, regardless of breed, with so many tested daughters, has

ever raised milk production over herdmates by so much. This bull and his sons are destined to play dominant roles in developing high producing strains in North America.

CURRENT REGISTRATION AND GROWTH

Total annual registrations for a recent eight-year period are as follows:

1966 - 12,164	1962 - 11,230
1965 - 9,613	1961 - 12,289
1964 - 10,262	1960 - 11,266
1963 - 10,303	1959 - 10,977



Selwood Betty's Commander is a Canadian-bred Ayrshire sire who was exported to the United States in 1957. Semen from this bull is used widely in Canada.

PLACE OF THE BREED IN CANADIAN DAIRYING

The average milk composition of the Ayrshire is 4.1 per cent butterfat and 8.8 per cent solids-not-fat for a total solids content of approximately 13 per cent. This high solids content makes the milk ideal for processing into dairy products, for fluid consumption and for blending with other, lower composition milk to make a product to meet consumer demands.

The Ayrshire breed has been well known for its hardy, vigorous qualities. It has performed well in the past under less favourable conditions and has an established record for longevity, symmetry and high quality udders, firmly attached — qualities which make it saleable and profitable.



These cows 10 years and over at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto are noted for longevity and persistent production. In 79 lactations averaging 309 days milking, they produced an average of 10,594 pounds (4,805.4 kg) milk and 430 pounds (195.1 kg) fat testing at 4.06 per cent.

BREED PERFORMANCE LEVELS IN CANADA

Ayrshire breeders are among the most active in Canadian Record of Performance (ROP) program participation. In recent years, more than 35 per cent of Ayrshire herd owners, the most of any breed, have enrolled their herds in ROP. The hardiness of the breed has made it most popular under less favourable climatic conditions such as in the lower St. Lawrence. The number of Ayrshire herds in this area far surpasses the number in more ideal milk producing countries.

The following table outlines the improvement in performance of the breed over the 1960-1967 period.

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT TABLE

These are actual yields and include all ages (not mature equivalent).

Year	No. Animals Tested	Days in Milk	Milk lbs (kg)	Fat lbs (kg)	Breed Class Averages Milk Fat	
1960-61	11,793	182-305	8,465 (3,839.1 kg)	345 (156.5 kg)	105	104
1961-62	11,778	182-305	8,559 (3,882.3 kg)	347 (157.4 kg)	106	105
1962-63	11,847	182-305	8,652 (3,924.5 kg)	351 (159.2 kg)	107	106
1963-64	11,793	182-305	8,765 (3,975.7 kg)	355 (161.01 kg)	109	107
1964-65	10,655	182-305	9,042 (4,101.4 kg)	365 (165.6 kg)	112	110
1965-66	11,700	182-305	8,958 (4,063.3 kg)	361 (163.7 kg)	111	109
1966-67	11,329	182-305	9,284 (4,211.1 kg)	375 (170.1 kg)	115	113

Production yields have increased an average of more than two Breed Class Average (BCA) points per year.

This get of Selwood Betty's Commander, in 22 lactations averaging 328 days in milk, produced an average of 13,296 pounds (6,030.9 kg) milk and 593 pounds (268.9 kg) of fat testing at 4.46 per cent.



APPROVED SIRES

The Ayrshire Breeders' Association of Canada has an approved sire plan to recognize superior sires based on all their daughters. There are separate ratings for production and type.

To qualify for Approved Production, a sire must have a rating on the Contemporary Comparison method of sire appraisal with 10 or more effective daughters. The average butterfat test must be at least 3.9 per cent. The contemporary rating for milk must be at least + 12 for 10 effective daughters gradually decreasing to + 3 for 70 or more effective daughters. For 25 effective daughters, the rating is + 8.

An Approved Extra Production sire is one with the same minimum butterfat per cent but with a minimum of 25 effective daughters and with a + 10 rating for milk. The minimum rating for milk gradually decreases to a + 5 for 70 or more effective daughters.

To qualify for an Approved Type rating, a sire must have a minimum of 20 classified daughters with a rating of 86 per cent or more good plus and better, and a minimum average score of 84.6. As the number of classified daughters increases, the minimum requirements decrease to 70 per cent good plus and better, and an average score of 83.0 for 100 or more classified daughters. For 50 classified daughters there must be 80 per cent good plus and better, and an average score of 84.0 to qualify.

An Approved Extra Type sire is one with a minimum of 50 classified daughters with at least 92 per cent good plus and better, and a minimum average score of 85.2. The requirements decrease as the number of classified daughters increases to 82 per cent good plus and better, and a minimum average score of 84.2 for 100 classified daughters or more.

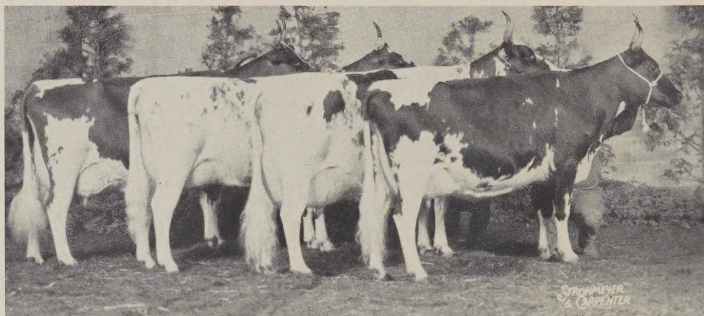


Sunny Dale Alice 7, rated Excellent Two Star, combines production and type in correct proportions. She has been Champion six times at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto and is an eight-year All-Canadian winner. She has produced more in the first 13 years of her life than any other Winter Fair Grand Champion. In 10 lactations the total yield was 120,986 pounds (54,878.3 kg) of milk and 5,112 pounds (2,318.5 kg) of fat testing at 4.23 per cent. In the same 10 lactations she averaged 12,099 pounds (5,488.02 kg) milk and 511 pounds (231.8 kg) fat.

BREED-TYPE CLASSIFICATION

The type classification program of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association requires herd owners to classify all milking age females. It is from these results that a sire type classification is reached. A bull's type proof is based on his daughters' results. Each daughter classified is given a rating of excellent, very good, good plus, good, fair or poor, depending on how well she conforms to ideal type standards.

The rating the bull receives on the type of his daughters can be compared to the average rating (Breed Average) for all classified Ayrshires. It is then easily determined whether or not a sire is superior to the breed average for each of the type characteristics. This information is helpful in corrective mating and is available to breeders in semi-annual and annual reports.



Until 1966 these four cows had won six championships and five reserve championships at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. Cindy, at two years in 305 days milking, gave 13,178 pounds (5,977.4 kg) milk, 557 pounds (252.7 kg) fat. Candy, at 4 years in 305 days milking, produced 12,987 pounds (5,890.8 kg) milk, 576 pounds (261.3 kg) fat. Alice, in 10 lactations, averaging 305 days milking, yielded an average of 12,099 pounds (5,488.02 kg) milk, 511 pounds (231.8 kg) fat. Pretty Girl, in four lactations, averaging 300 days milking, gave an average of 10,533 pounds (4,777.8 kg) milk, 444 pounds (201.4 kg) fat.

BREED PUBLICITY

The Ayrshire Breeders' Association of Canada publishes a monthly magazine, the Canadian Ayrshire Review, which keeps breeders informed on the developments within the association and contains herd average yield of a large number of Ayrshire herd owners. Press releases are prepared and distributed regularly to the farm news media. A brochure, A Picture of Canadian Ayrshires, in English, French and Spanish, has also been produced by the association and is available on request.

AYRSHIRE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
1160 Carling Avenue
Ottawa 3, Ontario, Canada

CANADIAN AYRSHIRE CLASS LEADERS

BUTTERFAT 365 days — Twice-a-day Milking		Milk lbs (kg)	Fat lbs (kg)
Mature Class 10 years and over	Jubilante Fleuremont (420701)	21,257 (9,650.7 kg)	977 (443.6 kg)
Mature Class 5-9 years	Chacock Lionelle 2 (437244)	22,566 (10,244.9 kg)	840 (381.4 kg)
Sr. 4-year-old class	Bluevale Mary Ruth 2 (313191)	16,717 (7,582.7 kg)	1,000 (453.6 kg)
Jr. 4-year-old class	Ubysey Admiral's Teresa (486228)	19,062 (8,646.4 kg)	844 (382.8 kg)
Sr. 3-year-old class	Selwood Swancy II (496572)	18,413 (8,359.5 kg)	838 (380.5 kg)
Jr. 3-year-old class	Kent Ayr Ideal Vivian (503816)	16,889 (7,667.6 kg)	827 (375.5 kg)
Sr. 2-year-old class	Hammonds Top Primrose (420948)	19,455 (8,824.6 kg)	826 (374.7 kg)
Jr. 2-year-old class	Ubysey Beauty Model (486951)	14,907 (6,762.7 kg)	684 (310.3 kg)

CANADIAN AYRSHIRE CLASS LEADERS

MILK 365 days — Twice-a-day Milking		Milk lbs (kg)	Fat lbs (kg)
Mature Class 10 years and over	Jubilante Fleuremont (420701)	21,257 (9,650.7 kg)	977 (443.6 kg)
Mature Class 5-9 years	Chacock Lionelle 2 (437244)	22,566 (10,235.8 kg)	840 (381.01 kg)
Sr. 4-year-old class	Alfalfa Bank Shirley 2 (459996)	21,780 (9,879.2 kg)	835 (378.7 kg)
Jr. 4-year-old class	Alderwood Royal Brown Lass (43714)	21,277 (9,651.1 kg)	841 (381.5 kg)
Sr. 3-year-old class	Homestead Jessica V. (463085)	18,528 (8,404.1 kg)	750 (340.1 kg)
Jr. 3-year-old class	Piety Knob Pear (411706)	19,258 (8,735.3 kg)	624 (283.03 kg)
Sr. 2-year-old class	Hammonds Top Primrose (420948)	19,455 (8,824.6 kg)	826 (374.7 kg)
Jr. 2-year-old class	Ubysey Master Noel (506887)	18,456 (8,374.1 kg)	675 (306.5 kg)

CANADIAN AYRSHIRE CLASS LEADERS

BUTTERFAT 305 days — Twice-a-day Milking		Milk lbs (kg)	Fat lbs (kg)
Mature Class 10 years and over	Jubilante Fleuremont (420701)	19,056 (8,651.4 kg)	862 (391.3 kg)
Mature Class 5-9 years	Bow River S. Patty (458819)	17,870 (8,112.9 kg)	914 (414.9 kg)
Sr. 4-year-old class	Glengarry Betty Ann (31330)	17,080 (7,747.4 kg)	793 (359.7 kg)
Jr. 4-year-old class	Alderwood Royal Brown Lass (437141)	20,623 (9,354.4 kg)	810 (367.4 kg)
Sr. 3-year-old class	Beaurivage Jaunie (418350)	14,158 (6,421.9 kg)	772 (350.2 kg)
Jr. 3-year-old class	Kent Ayr Ideal Vivian (503816)	15,561 (7,064.7 kg)	756 (343.2 kg)
Sr. 2-year-old class	Hammonds Top Primrose (420948)	17,385 (7,885.7 kg)	717 (325.2 kg)
Jr. 2-year-old class	Hammonds Prise Marie 2 (403927)	15,708 (7,125.02 kg)	668 (302.9 kg)

CANADIAN AYRSHIRE CLASS LEADERS

MILK 305 days — Twice-a-day Milking		Milk lbs (kg)	Fat lbs (kg)
Mature Class 10 years and over	Jubilante Fleuremont (420701)	19,056 (8,651.4 kg)	862 (391.3 kg)
Mature Class 5-9 years	Chacock Lionelle 2 (437244)	20,547 (9,319.9 kg)	769 (348.8 kg)
Sr. 4-year-old class	Alfalfa Bank Shirley 2 (459996)	19,165 (8,700.9 kg)	730 (331.1 kg)
Jr. 4-year-old class	Alderwood Royal Brown Lass (437141)	20,623 (9,354.4 kg)	810 (367.4 kg)
Sr. 3-year-old class	Blackaddar Amethyst 2 (512692)	17,568 (7,975.9 kg)	681 (309.2 kg)
Jr. 3-year-old class	Grampian Kitty Lula (499752)	18,097 (8,216.1 kg)	526 (238.8 kg)
Sr. 2-year-old class	Hammonds Top Primrose (420948)	17,385 (7,885.7 kg)	717 (326.2 kg)
Jr. 2-year-old class	Grampian Kitty Lula (499752)	16,368 (7,424.4 kg)	511 (231.8 kg)

**For further information please contact
the Canadian Trade Office
at this address**

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